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WOOL Situation

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Wool Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1970		1971			1972
		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Ct. per lb.	31.7	28.2	31.9	21.1	20.7	20.4
Wool Act Incentive price	do.	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0
Parity price (effective following month)	do.	98.4	98.6	98.6	103.0	103.0	103.0
Domestic prices, Boston, clean basis							
Graded territory							
Fine, good French combing and staple	do.	92.5	85.0	82.5	60.5	61.5	62.5
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	do.	90.5	82.9	82.5	55.4	54.5	54.5
Graded fleece							
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	do.	87.5	83.7	81.0	59.3	52.5	52.5
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	do.	85.5	83.2	81.0	59.3	52.5	52.5
Original bag Texas, fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	92.5	83.8	82.5	61.0	61.9	62.5
Imported prices, Boston, clean, excluding duty							
Australian, 64's, warp and 1/2 warp	do.	82.0	80.2	80.4	80.5	83.9	89.0
Australian, 64's combing	do.	80.0	78.9	79.4	75.8	78.9	84.9
Montevideo, 0's (58's, 60's)	do.	63.5	63.5	63.5	60.5	60.5	60.5
Montevideo, 2's (50's)	do.	4/56.5	54.5	54.5	54.0	54.0	54.0
BLS wholesale price index							
All commodities	1967=100	110.9	111.0	111.8	114.5	115.4	---
Textile products and apparel	do.	107.1	106.7	106.9	109.8	110.6	---
Wool products	do.	97.7	96.8	96.2	92.3	91.5	---
Wool broadwoven fabrics	do.	100.9	100.2	100.1	99.5	99.5	---
Personal income payments, annual rate 1/	Bil. dol.	815.7	820.9	830.0	874.9	883.8	---
Retail apparel sales, monthly rate 1/	Mil. dol.	1,683	1,681	1,689	1,760	---	---
Mill consumption, scoured basis 2/							
Average weekly rate (unadjusted)							
Apparel wool	1,000 lb.	2,699	2,392	2,543	1,925	1,963	---
Carpet wool	do.	1,350	1,270	1,307	1,603	1,446	---
Average weekly rate (seasonally adjusted)							
Apparel wool	do.	2,879	2,725	2,495	2,057	2,240	---
Carpet wool	do.	1,326	1,358	1,231	1,575	1,547	---
Monthly aggregates 3/							
Apparel wool	Mil. lb.	10.8	12.0	10.2	7.7	9.8	---
Carpet wool	do.	5.4	6.3	5.2	6.4	7.2	---
Accumulated since January 1							
Apparel wool	do.	151.7	163.7	10.2	106.4	116.2	---
Carpet wool	do.	70.3	76.6	5.2	67.5	74.8	---
Imports for consumption, clean content							
Monthly aggregates							
Dutiable wools	1,000 lb.	2,952	4,540	6,056	190	835	---
Duty-free wools	do.	3,969	6,382	5,924	762	9,865	---
Accumulated since January 1							
Dutiable wools	Mil. lb.	75.3	79.8	6.1	41.8	42.7	---
Duty-free wools	do.	66.9	73.3	5.9	74.0	83.9	---

1/ Seasonally adjusted.

2/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of processed felt, hat bodies and other miscellaneous products.

3/ 4 or 5 weeks generally totaling 13 weeks per quarter.

4/ 2's (50's) and 1's (56's) combined, August 1970 to date.

THE WOOL SITUATION

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The *Wool Situation* is published in February, April, August, and October.

SUMMARY

The 7 percent decrease in this year's beginning stock sheep inventory points to less U.S. wool production in 1972. With little change likely in production per sheep, the total shorn wool clip will be down from the 155 million pounds, grease basis, of 1971.

Prices of domestic fine wools have strengthened during recent months. Prices of medium wool have leveled off, after declining last fall. On balance, average prices to U.S. producers may recover slightly this year. Foreign wool prices will average a little above 1971, benefiting domestic markets. Less domestic production, together with possibly a little improvement in consumption levels, and devaluation of the dollar also will help boost wool prices in the United States.

The 1971 national average price of shorn wool probably was down about a third from the 35.5 cents a pound, grease basis, of 1970. Sharply reduced demand for apparel wool, as well as lower prices of foreign wool prompted the decline in 1971 domestic market prices. The Wool Act incentive payments that producers receive this spring, covering 1971 marketings of shorn wool and unshorn lambs, will be based on the difference between last year's average market price of shorn wool and the incentive price of 72 cents a pound.

U.S. textile activity in 1971 moved well ahead of the previous year. However, the wool sector suffered further inroads of man-made fibers. Mill use of raw apparel wood dropped 29 percent to 116 million pounds, scoured basis. Carpet wool use, at 75 million pounds, was about the same as in 1970.

A low level of unfilled orders for wool apparel fabric is still with us, and stocks of fabric are plentiful. Thus, mill use of apparel wool will improve little if any during the first half of 1972. But some gain may develop later in the year, due to strong general demand and favorable raw wool prices.

Prospects for continued sharp growth in overall use of rugs and carpeting translate favorably for 1972 consumption of carpet wool. But strengthening prices of raw carpet wool will limit this year's gains in consumption.

Exports of apparel class semiprocessed and manufactured wool textiles continued relatively small. However, exports of wool tops increased from 0.4 million pounds in 1970 to 4.8 million in 1971, due to the sharp drop in prices of domestic raw wool. Also, exports of domestic raw wool were unusually large,

rising from 0.2 million pounds in 1970 to 6.3 million, clean content, in 1971.

With the slowdown in domestic demand, imports of apparel wool textiles, at 81 million pounds, totaled a fourth less than 1970. Declines occurred in all major items—yarn, fabric, and clothing.

Also, dutiable raw wool imports declined from 80 million pounds, clean content, in 1970 to 43 million in 1971, reflecting the drop in mill use of apparel wool.

In contrast, duty-free raw wool imports moved ahead by 14 percent to 84 million pounds, clean content, despite little change in the figures for carpet wool use. Larger imports were needed to replenish stock levels. Also, they probably reflected a hedge against further dock strikes.

The world wool clip during 1971/72 is declining for the third consecutive season. Southern Hemisphere stocks, particularly of fine wool, are up, but coarse wool stocks have declined. World consumption of wool probably declined slightly in calendar 1971. But the low level of raw wool prices and some evidence of reduced trade stocks of textiles point to an increase in world mill use this year. Prices of wool in world markets have strengthened slightly since last fall and likely will average a little higher this year, due to less production and some expected increase in consumption.

Growers' average prices for mohair declined from 39.1 cents a pound, grease basis, in 1970 to around 30 cents in 1971, but they rebounded in recent weeks to some 55 cents a pound for adult hair. Stocks of mohair are smaller than a year ago and 27 percent fewer goats on Texas farms and ranches will mean less mohair production this year. The smaller supplies and expected firm total disappearance will keep prices higher in 1972. Exports of mohair increased 15 percent in 1971 but less domestic consumption reduced overall demand for U.S. mohair. This spring's Wool Act payments on mohair will reflect the difference between 1971's average market price and support price of 80.2 cents a pound.

THE U.S. WOOL SITUATION

Domestic Wool Prices Mixed

Prices of domestic shorn wool in Boston the last few months have strengthened slightly for selections grading 64's and finer. The market also was stronger for imported Australian wools. Half-blood domestic wools continued steady. Prices of coarser domestic wool moved down in October-December, then leveled off in January. (See figure 1.)

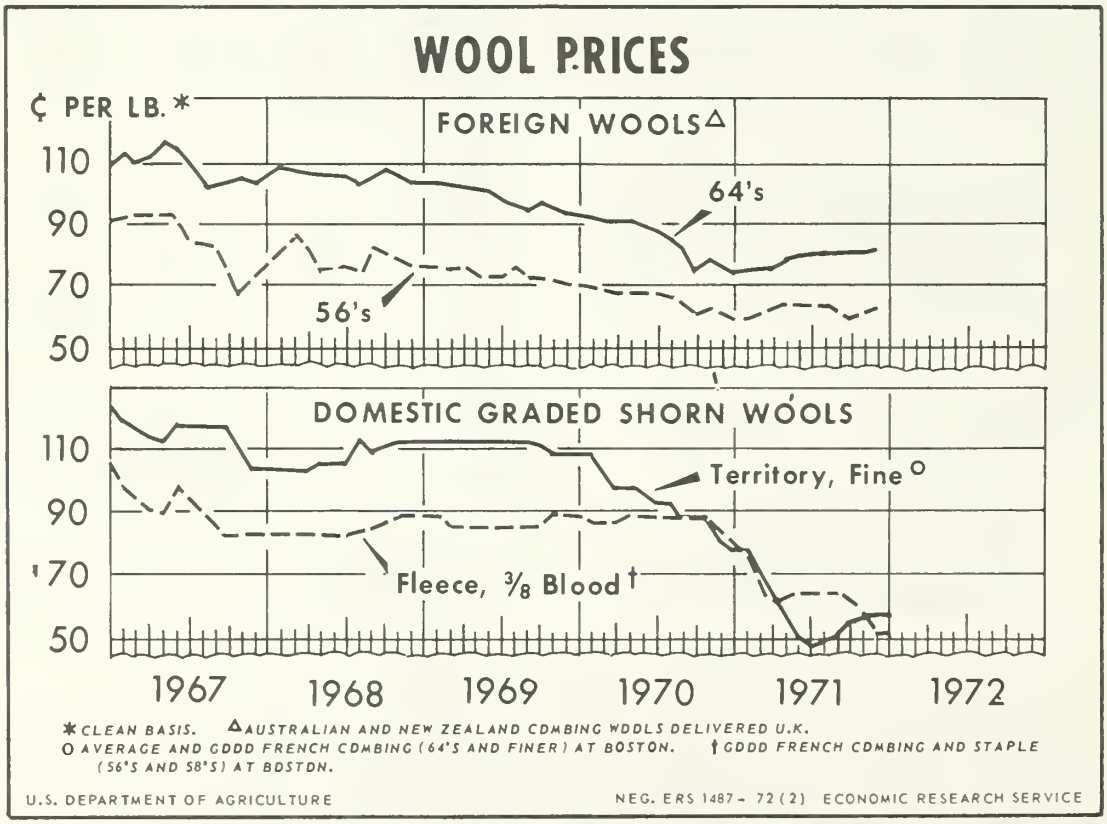

Figure 1

All prices of domestic wool in January 1972 were below those of January-May 1971. Compared with last summer and fall, however, prices of fine wools presently are a little higher. Prices of grade 60's wool are about the same; those of coarser wools are moderately below.

The usual price differences among grades of domestic wool still have not been fully reinstated, although recent market trends have been in that direction. Prices of fine wools in past years averaged well above medium wools, but dropped below during most of 1971. This situation was reversed the last couple of months, with strength in fine wool and weakness in medium wool. Prices of most domestic wools continue low relative to duty-paid prices of imported wool.

U.S. wool prices were down sharply last year, due mainly to inroads or man-made fibers and declining domestic mill use of wool. Also, overall world consumption of wool lagged and prices in foreign markets averaged lower.

For 1972, however, indications are for some improvement. Stronger demand for wool in other countries likely will lead to firmer world prices. Devaluation of the U.S. dollar in relation to other currencies will make domestic wools more competitive. Also, another decline in U.S. production and perhaps some pickup in mill use as the year progresses will aid prices. But such recovery in the year's average prices likely will favor the finer wools. Average prices of medium wool may trail 1971.

With fine wool prices making some gain, the overall average price to producers this year probably will be up a little, The 1971 average price dropped about a third from 35.5 cents a pound, grease basis, in 1970. (See table 1.) The final average price for 1971 will be published March 30. Producers will begin receiving incentive payments under the Wool Act in April on their 1971 marketings of shorn wool and unshorn lambs. These payments will be based on the difference between the average market price of shorn wool and the incentive price of 72 cents a pound, as they were for 1970 marketings.

Table 1.—Average U.S. farm prices for shorn wool, grease basis

Month	1968	1969	1970	1971[1]	1972[1]
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*
January	36.5	37.4	35.6	31.9	20.4
February	34.8	38.2	35.7	31.5	
March	38.0	40.4	36.5	29.3	
April	41.6	42.8	37.5	26.1	
May	41.7	43.5	36.6	23.6	
June	41.9	42.8	37.5	22.9	
July	40.7	41.4	37.1	22.4	
August	39.4	39.9	34.2	22.0	
September	39.9	39.2	31.6	21.8	
October	37.8	39.6	32.5	21.3	
November	39.2	38.6	31.7	21.1	
December	38.0	38.6	28.2	20.7	
Weighted season average	40.5	41.8	35.5		

[1] Preliminary.
Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

Sheep Numbers Off 7 Percent

Stock sheep and lambs on U.S. farms and ranches January 1, 1972, at 15.8 million, were down 7 percent from a year earlier. This generally reflected a further shift to alternative enterprises, primarily beef cattle. Although incentive payments have helped producers' incomes, lagging market prices for wool have discouraged investment in sheep. (See table 2.)

Less wool production is indicated for 1972 by the decline in sheep numbers. This would continue the downward trend underway since 1960 and means a further cut in shorn wool production from the 155 million pounds, grease basis, in 1971.

The 11 Western States, Texas, and South Dakota had 11.7 million stock sheep on hand in January, 7 percent less than a year earlier. There were 4.1 million, or 6 percent fewer in other States. All States in the main wool growing regions reported declines.

Farm value of stock sheep and lambs declined a tenth to $356 million. The decline was due both to fewer sheep and to a decrease in the average value per sheep from $23.50 January 1, 1971, to $22.60 this year.

Table 2.—The U.S. stock sheep inventory, number and change from previous year, January 1

Year	Lambs		One year and older		Total stock sheep	
	Number	Change	Number	Change	Number	Change
	Thousand	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Percent*
1963	4,081	-7	21,041	-6	25,122	-6
1964	3,803	-7	19,652	-7	23,455	-7
1965	3,451	-9	18,392	-6	21,843	-7
1966	3,770	+9	17,686	-4	21,456	-2
1967	3,644	-3	17,017	-4	20,661	-4
1968	3,117	-14	15,988	-6	19,105	-8
1969	2,964	-5	15,368	-4	18,332	-4
1970	2,881	-3	14,530	-5	17,411	-5
1971	2,742	-5	14,226	-2	16,968	-3
1972[1]	2,356	-14	13,411	-6	15,767	-7

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

Wool Mill Activity
Stable

Wool mill fiber consumption trended down during 1970 and the early months of 1971, then leveled off. For raw apparel wool, the annual rate of mill use has been about 112 million pounds, scoured basis, since last spring. A higher rate of use early in the year, however, figured in the year's total mill use of 116 million pounds. But compared with 1970, mill use of raw apparel wool last year declined 29 percent. Competition from man-made fibers caused most of wool's loss, as knit goods of these fibers cut into the woven fabric market. (See figure 2, and tables 3, 13, and 14.)

Table 3.—U.S. mill consumption of raw wool, scoured basis

Year	Apparel wool	Carpet wool	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1962	280,247	148,853	429,100
1963	251,344	160,399	411,743
1964	233,932	122,737	356,669
1965	274,696	112,330	387,026
1966	266,587	103,587	370,174
1967	228,659	83,851	312,510
1968	238,290	91,407	329,697
1969	219,035	93,758	312,793
1970	163,652	76,609	240,261
1971[1]	116,205	74,779	190,984

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Worsted system use of raw apparel wool declined a third last year, and output of wool tops was down from 103 million pounds in 1970 to 70 million in 1971. Consumption of raw apparel wool on the woolen system was a fourth less than a year earlier.

Use of all grades of wool declined last year. Wools grading coarser than 60's continued relatively large as a percentage of total wool use. Their share of the total mix increased from about 50 percent in 1966-69 to 55-57 percent in 1970 and 1971. Corresponding declines occurred in use of 60's and finer wools. (See table 4.)

Mill consumption of raw carpet wool, at 75 million pounds in 1971, was about the same as the 77 million, scoured basis, used in 1970. However, expansion in overall carpet production indicates a further decline in wool's share of the total market for carpet fibers.

Combined use of all fibers in domestic woolen and worsted mills declined 13 percent last year to 599 million pounds. And use of each kind of fiber—raw wool, man-made, and other— was reduced. But man-made fibers increased from about 53 percent of total fiber use in 1970 to nearly 57 percent in 1971. This was at the expense of raw wool, as well as reprocessed and reused wool and other fiber.

Total U.S. mill consumption of all fibers combined recovered sharply in 1971, with improved retail demand for textile products. This is indicated by a 13 percent increase in man-made fiber output and a little more consumption of cotton; use of wool declined. (See table 5.)

Table 4.—Distribution of apparel wool consumption

Year	60's and finer	50's up to 60's	48's and coarser	Total
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
		Woolen system		
1967	34.8	57.9	7.3	100.0
1968	35.8	56.2	8.0	100.0
1969	37.0	55.1	7.9	100.0
1970	35.7	54.4	9.9	100.0
1971[1]	36.5	53.7	9.8	100.0
		Worsted system		
1967	58.7	41.3		100.0
1968	58.0	42.0		100.0
1969	59.3	40.7		100.0
1970	46.7	53.3		100.0
1971[1]	49.8	50.2		100.0
		Total		
1967	49.4	50.6		100.0
1968	50.2	49.8		100.0
1969	51.2	48.8		100.0
1970	43.1	56.9		100.0
1971[1]	45.2	54.8		100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 5.—Index numbers of selected U.S. fiber trends[1]

(1970=100)

Year and quarter	Mill consumption		Man-made fiber production[2]
	Raw apparel and carpet wool	Cotton	
1967			
1st	128.4	119.4	69.5
2nd	129.9	117.1	69.9
3rd	128.9	112.2	72.6
4th	135.1	114.7	84.7
1968			
1st	139.1	114.8	90.1
2nd	138.2	109.8	92.8
3rd	136.4	105.9	98.4
4th	136.4	104.0	102.8
1969			
1st	133.7	102.6	101.9
2nd	133.7	103.8	104.5
3rd	125.7	103.2	106.5
4th	119.4	102.7	99.8
1970			
1st	112.4	99.2	102.4
2nd	103.0	98.1	100.7
3rd	95.7	101.3	97.6
4th	89.0	101.5	99.2
1971			
1st	81.8	103.2	104.5
2nd	77.3	104.2	112.8
3rd	78.3	103.6	118.4
4th	81.5	101.3	118.8

[1] Index based on original dates seasonally adjusted at annual rates. [2] Excludes acetate staple and tow production.

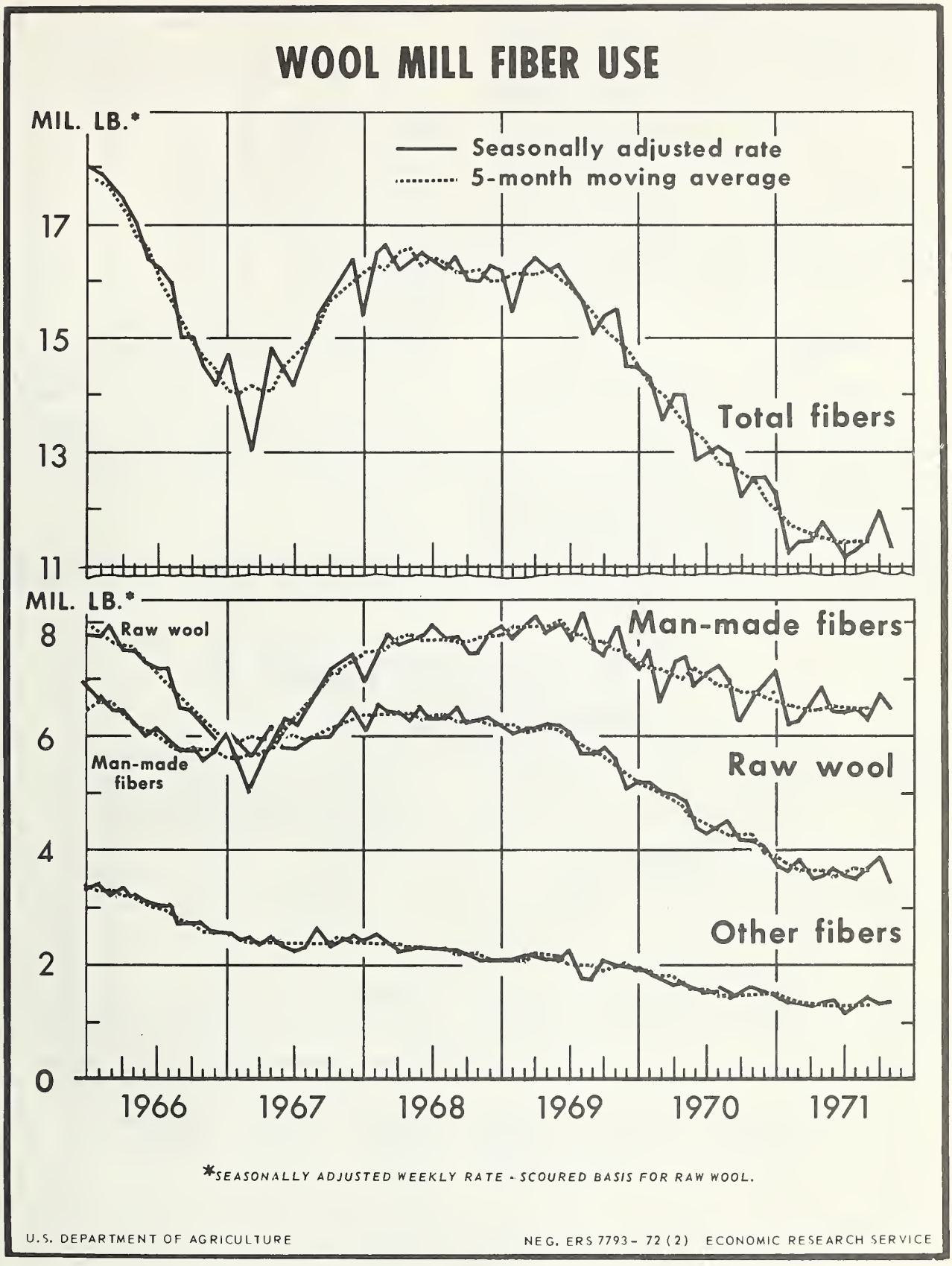
WOOL MILL FIBER USE
MIL. LB.*
Seasonally adjusted rate
5-month moving average
17
15
13
11
Total fibers
MIL. LB.*
8
6
4
2
0
Raw wool
Man-made fibers
Man-made fibers
Raw wool
Other fibers
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED WEEKLY RATE - SCOURED BASIS FOR RAW WOOL.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 7793 - 72 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Figure 2

Prospects are generally favorable for 1972 overall U.S. fiber consumption, based on expected strength in general demand. Also, low levels of raw wool prices could stimulate consumption of apparel wool. However, mill use of apparel wool may be limited for some months, since new orders for wool textiles have shown little or no improvement. Unfilled orders for wool fabric are still at a low level and stocks of fabrics continue relatively large.

Strong consumer demand for carpets will encourage larger use of carpet wool. Nevertheless, rising prices of raw carpet wool the last few months have clouded wool's competitive position, and will limit any gain in 1972 consumption. (See figure 3.)

Fabric Stock/Unfilled Orders Ratio High

Mill stocks of finished wool apparel fabric, including polyester—wool blends, last year were kept smaller than in 1970. At the end of November they were down 23 percent from a year earlier; but unfilled orders for fabric also declined and at the end of November were down by 39 percent, despite reduced output of fabric. Thus, last year's weak demand for wool products was reflected in a high ratio of stocks to unfilled orders for fabric. And there is little if any prospect of a rise in apparel wool mill activity during the first half of 1972. (See table 6.)

Table 6.—Finished wool apparel fabrics: Ratio of stocks to unfilled orders

Month	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
January	36	26	25	30	63
February	34	27	24	36	62
March	37	27	25	39	61
April	36	27	26	42	63
May	36	26	29	51	65
June	33	23	30	47	69
July	29	21	29	47	77
August	29	21	32	50	80
September	28	21	29	53	77
October	27	23	30	49	68
November	25	25	30	50	63
December	25	25	29	44	

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

The worsted sector experienced greatest deterioration in the stock/unfilled orders balance for fabric. Stocks decline a little, but unfilled orders were off sharply. Stocks as well as unfilled orders for woolen constructions were a little less than November 1970. For polyester—wool blends, both stocks and unfilled orders were about half the November 1970 quantities.

Wool Fabric Output Down

U.S. production of broadwoven wool fabric declined 38 percent the first 9 months of 1971 to 92 million

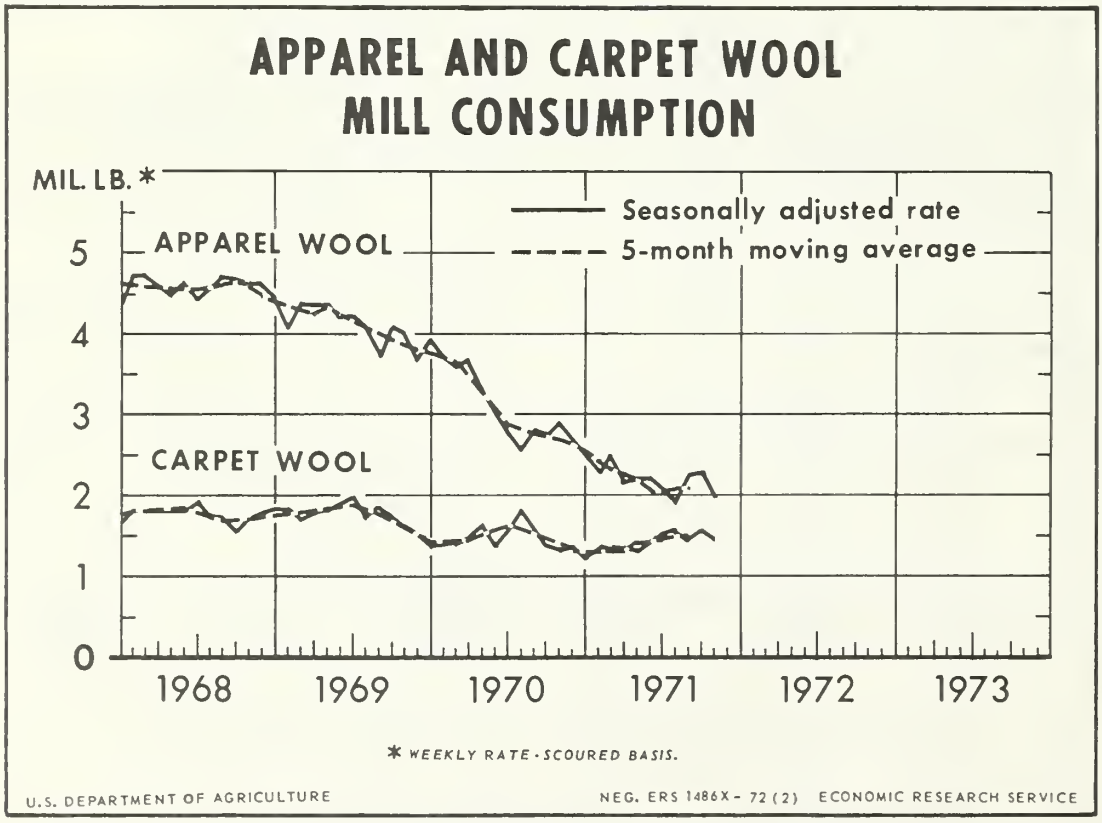

Figure 3

linear yards. Total output for all of 1970 was 179 million linear yards.

Wool apparel fabric production during January-September totaled 88 million linear yards, reflecting declines of 37 percent for women and children's wear and 34 percent for men and boys. Output for government orders was nominal. Wool blanket and other nonapparel fabric production declined 31 percent. Woven felt output, at 6 million pounds, was 8 percent less than a year earlier. (See table 15.)

Mill shipment of all types of carpets and rugs the first 3 quarters of 1971 continued the strong growth pattern of recent years. A tenth larger shipments through September made 1971 a record year. The aesthetic appeal of carpeting, as well as its utility, has boosted demand for carpets. Also, increasing consumer incomes and housing gains have assured strong markets for carpeting. (See table 7.)

Table 7.—U.S. mill shipments of rugs and carpets

Year and quarter	Total	Change from a year earlier
	Mil. sq. yards	*Percent*
1967	496.5	+5.8
1968	586.2	+18.1
1969	642.6	+9.6
1970	680.5	+5.9
1969		
1st	154.0	+17.3
2nd	158.2	+11.1
3rd	161.3	+10.7
4th	169.2	+1.5
1970		
1st	160.9	+4.5
2nd	170.0	+7.5
3rd	170.8	+5.9
4th	178.8	+5.7
1971		
1st	172.5	+7.2
2nd	190.6	+12.1
3rd	190.7	+11.7

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

U.S. Foreign Trade In Wool Textiles

Imports of apparel class semiprocessed and manufactured wool textiles last year declined 26 percent to 81 million pounds, raw wool equivalent. Declines were reported for most product categories, including such major items as wool noils, woven fabric, and apparel. Weak domestic demand for apparel wool textiles was associated with smaller imports. Also, the decline in U.S. raw wool prices was more pronounced than in other countries, which became a plus factor in the competitive position of domestic apparel wool mills. In the carpet sector, imports increased slightly, after having trailed in 1970.

Exports of apparel wool textiles increased from 6.6 million pounds in 1970 to 10.8 million in 1971. Most of this gain occurred in shipments of wool tops, again reflecting the relatively steep decline in domestic raw wool prices. Exports of wool tops, excluding other advanced wool, increased from 0.4 million pounds in 1970 to 4.8 million in 1971. (See table 16 and 17.)

Imports and Exports of Raw Apparel Wool

Less mill consumption last year led to a sharp drop in U.S. imports of dutiable raw wool. They totaled 43 million pounds, clean content, little more than half the 80 million in 1970. With less U.S. production and a little more mill use in prospect, 1972 imports of raw wool would average slightly larger than last year. (See table 8.)

Table 8.—U.S. imports of dutiable and duty-free raw wool for consumption, clean content

Year	Dutiable	Duty-free	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1962	125,780	143,460	269,240
1963	109,196	167,962	277,158
1964	98,415	113,932	212,347
1965	162,637	108,943	271,580
1966	162,537	114,625	277,162
1967	109,071	78,205	187,276
1968	129,717	119,599	249,316
1969	93,523	95,664	189,187
1970	79,810	73,325	153,134
1971[1]	42,682	83,893	126,575

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Imports of 56's and finer wool accounted for 72 percent of total imports last year, up sharply from the unusually low 62 percent in 1970. This accompanied corresponding declines in coarser grades of apparel wool. (See table 9.)

Table 9.—Quality composition of dutiable and duty-free imports

Grade	1968	1969	1970	1971[1]
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
DUTIABLE				
56's and finer	70.5	74.6	61.9	71.9
46's to 56's	17.6	13.3	22.8	16.6
40's to 46's	3.5	3.5	5.3	3.5
Not finer than 40's	8.4	8.6	10.0	8.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
DUTY-FREE				
44's to 46's	12.9	8.0	3.0	2.0
40's to 44's	31.4	24.5	24.6	27.0
Not finer than 40's	42.9	55.8	60.2	63.6
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	12.8	11.7	12.2	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Exports of domestic raw wool totaled 0.2 million pounds in 1970 reflecting the long-time substantial deficit in domestic production and relatively high prices in U.S. markets. However, inroads of man-made fibers together with sagging mill use of apparel wool, and sharp declines in domestic wool prices stimulated exports during the second half of 1971. For the year as a whole, exports of domestic wool totaled 6.3 million pounds, clean content. Nearly 4 million pounds went to West Germany. The United Kingdom took 1.2 million pounds.

Duty-Free Raw Wool Imports Up

There were 84 million pounds of duty-free raw wool imported last year, compared with 73 million, clean content, in 1970. Mill use was about the same as a year earlier. But reduced commercial stocks at the beginning of last year and the possibility of further dock strikes likely had some bearing on the increase in imports. Firm prospects for mill use likely will keep imports up this year.

Graded wools coarser than 44's the last few years have accounted for an increasing share of total duty-free raw wool imports. In 1971, their share of total imports was about 91 percent, compared with 85 percent in 1970. Graded 44's to 46's wool declined to 2 percent of total imports in 1971, and the named-unimproved wools of the Middle East and Asia declined to 7 percent.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

A further rise in exports highlighted the 1971 mohair season in the United States. Both production and consumption declined again. And prices for the year averaged lower. However, 1972 has seen an abrupt rebound in prices of raw mohair. The recovery reflects smaller stocks and the downward trend in production.

Prospects are for U.S. production of mohair to decline further in 1972. Production has not been reported as yet for last year, but likely was down rather sharply from the 16.7 million pounds, grease basis, of 1970. Last year's reduction and the prospective decrease in 1972 reflect the smaller number of goats on Texas farms and ranches. They declined by 20 percent during 1970, and a further 27 percent last year. At the same time, relatively large exports together with small production indicate that commercial stocks of mohair fell from the 14.3 million pounds, grease basis, on hand January 1, 1971. Thus, U.S. supplies of mohair during 1972 are expected to total substantially less than in 1971.

Declining market prices of mohair the last several years have discouraged producers in South Africa and Turkey, as well as in the United States. Drought conditions, although finally broken during the last year, also had contributed to a decline in South Africa's overall livestock numbers. Economic pressures resulted in large numbers of Angora goats moving to slaughter, a decline in on-farm flocks, and less mohair production. Combined mohair output of the 3 major producing countries trended downward from the record 66 million pounds, grease basis, in 1965 to an estimated 40 million in 1971, and a further decline is expected in 1972.

U.S. exports of moahir during 1971, at 14.9 million pounds, grease basis, were up for the second consecutive year. Less production in other countries and relatively large supplies and reduced prices in the United States all worked to stimulate export shipments. The reduced level of production in other countries will mean continued foreign demand for U.S. mohair. The year ahead, however, may see a couple of factors begin to limit exports of domestic mohair. Declining domestic supplies and expected higher average prices cloud the prospects for exports.

Domestic demand for mohair trailed off in 1971 for the third consecutive year, as overall fashion developments employing mohair continued to lag. Production of mohair top declined by 47 percent. However, use of mohair including other similar specialty hair fiber on the woolen system picked up as 1971 progressed, and for the year as a whole totaled nearly a fourth more than in 1970. This element of recovery, albeit limited to the woolen system, portends some improvement in this year's domestic demand prospects for mohair.

Growers' prices of mohair have increased sharply the last several weeks, with some adult hair selling at 55 cents a pound. This was up from 25-30 cents for adult mohair during the closing months of 1971. Farm prices of mohair had declined from an average of 39.1 cents a pound, grease basis, in 1970 to nearly 30 cents in 1971, as domestic demand declined. However, with supplies declining further this year and combined domestic and foreign use expected to stay relatively firm, prices for 1972 likely will average well above 1971.

Government support payments to mohair producers on 1971 marketings will be based on the difference between the national average market price and support price of 80.2 cents a pound. Payments on mohair are made under provisions of the Wool Act, and, as in wool, producers will begin receiving these payments in April.

THE WORLD WOOL SITUATION

Supplies and Prices of Wool

World production wool during the season begun in 1971 is down slightly again, marking the third consecutive year of decline from the record production of 1968/69. The impact of this trend, although not enjoying headline attention at the moment, carries considerable weight in supply-demand equations. Most concern in recent years has been over large stocks, reduced prices, and market support by the various wool commissions of the Southern Hemisphere. Still, world production of wool during each of the last 3 years has totaled about the same as mill consumption. Accordingly, any significant pickup in demand for wool world move consumption ahead of production and reduce current excessive stocks.

World stocks of wool became large about 5 years ago when increasing production moved well ahead of consumption. Most of these stocks originally were held by the New Zealand Wool Commission, and were comprised primarily of medium and coarse crossbred wools. These stocks have declined. However, the Australian and South African commissions purchased substantial quantities of fine wool during 1970/71 and the first half of 1971/72. Their support of the market has diminished sharply in recent weeks, as mill demand for wool moved prices slightly ahead. But overall stocks of wool in the Southern Hemisphere have moved back to the peak levels of 1967 and 1968.

Stocks of raw wool in a number of major manufacturing countries declined during 1971, which will stimulate buying activity during the months ahead. But supplies in all locations continue fairly large, compared with the present rate of consumption.

World prices of wool strengthened slightly last December and various trade reports indicated some further rise during January. This generally reflects improved demand at auction levels. Also, the wool withdrawn from the market by the commissions in Australia and South Africa during previous months probably is aiding prices of fine wools.

Average prices somewhat above 1971 are foreseen for most of this year. Improved demand and world consumption of wool promise a firm market. At the same time production is slipping. Decisions over the disposition of stocks of fine wool in Australia and South Africa may continue to cause some uncertainty in the market. New Zealand's stocks of wool have been moving into consumption quite well in recent months. And prices of these coarser types of wool have firmed as stocks have declined. (See table 10.)

Table 10.—Prices of Australian and New Zealand combing wool, Bradford grade, C.I.F., United Kingdom, clean basis

Year and month	70's	64's	60's	58's	56's	50's	48's	46's	Average 8 grades
	U.S. cents per pound								
1970									
January	109.0	93.0	82.0	73.0	70.0	54.0	47.0	44.0	71.5
February	110.2	93.2	82.2	73.1	69.1	53.1	47.1	44.1	71.5
March	107.3	90.2	79.2	71.2	69.2	55.1	49.1	46.1	70.9
April	107.3	91.2	80.2	72.2	68.2	56.1	51.1	49.1	71.9
May	107.2	91.1	80.1	72.1	68.1	56.1	51.1	48.1	71.7
June	103.9	87.9	77.9	69.9	67.9	55.9	50.0	47.0	70.0
July	104.6	87.7	76.7	69.7	67.7	55.8	49.8	46.8	69.9
August	99.5	84.6	73.6	67.7	66.7	52.7	48.7	46.8	67.5
September	93.4	79.5	71.6	65.6	63.6	49.7	45.7	42.7	64.0
October	84.6	73.6	67.6	62.7	59.7	48.7	44.8	42.8	60.6
November	87.6	77.7	71.7	67.7	61.7	51.8	45.8	43.8	63.5
December	85.7	75.7	70.7	67.7	60.8	49.8	44.8	42.8	62.2
1971									
January	82.9	74.2	68.7	66.6	58.9	50.2	45.8	43.6	61.4
February	83.3	74.6	69.1	66.9	59.2	50.4	46.1	43.9	61.7
March	83.4	74.6	69.1	66.9	61.4	53.8	49.4	47.2	63.2
April	83.4	74.6	69.1	66.9	62.5	54.8	49.3	48.3	63.6
May	85.6	77.9	72.4	69.1	64.7	56.0	51.6	50.5	66.0
June	86.7	79.0	73.5	70.2	64.7	56.0	52.7	51.6	66.8
July	86.7	79.0	73.5	70.2	64.7	55.9	52.7	51.6	66.8
August	87.2	79.5	74.0	70.7	63.0	55.2	53.0	51.9	66.8
September	86.2	78.4	73.9	70.6	61.6	52.6	51.5	50.4	65.7
October	87.0	79.1	74.6	71.2	57.6	52.0	50.8	49.7	65.2
November	87.1	79.2	74.6	71.3	59.9	55.4	53.2	52.0	66.6
December	88.2	81.4	76.8	73.3	61.9	56.2	55.0	53.9	68.3
Latest data as percent of a year earlier	102.9	107.5	108.6	108.3	101.8	112.9	122.8	125.9	109.8

Compiled from reports of New Zealand Wool Commission.

World Wool Consumption Off Slightly

Mill use of raw wool in major manufacturing countries during January-September 1971 totaled 8 percent less than a year earlier, with declines occurring mostly in the United States, parts of Europe, and in Japan. France and West Germany boosted their wool consumption nearly a tenth. Also, a number of other countries including the USSR have reported improvement at various stages of wool manufacturing. But final figures on 1971 world consumption of wool are expected to be down slightly from 1970. (See table 11.)

Quarterly rates of wool consumption in major manufacturing countries declined from peak levels in 1969 to what apparently was a cyclical low in 1971. This was indicated by 1971's small quarter-to-quarter changes of seasonally adjusted consumption. Much of last year's decline in wool use, apart from competition from man-made fibers, is associated with the lag that occurred in overall growth in the economies of many important wool consuming countries. (See figure 4.)

Prospects for 1972 world wool consumption are still clouded somewhat by adjustments occurring in general economic growth patterns. But the low level of raw wool prices and reports of reduced trade stocks of wool textiles point to increasing mill use. On balance, 1972 likely will see some recovery in wool consumption. Improvement in general demand that may develop as the year progresses would provide additional stimulus to wool mill activity.

1971 Wool Textile Output Down

Wool textile production generally lagged the first 9 months of 1971 in major manufacturing countries. Output of yarn was 1-2 percent above a year earlier. But production of wool tops declined 12 percent and woven fabrics 9 percent. As in mill consumption, France and West Germany enjoyed a better performance. Other countries reported a broad range of reduced output compared with 1970.

Last year's downward trend in wool textile production appears to have slowed by the third quarter. Declines were generally less severe than indicated earlier in 1971. Also, fourth quarter differences probably narrowed further. (See table 20.)

Table 11.—Mill consumption of wool, selected countries, clean content

Country	Year		1970				1971			Change	
	1969	1970	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	July-Sept. 1971 to July-Sept. 1970	Jan.-Sept. 1971 to Jan.-Sept. 1970
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*
United States[1] ...	312.8	240.3	69.0	65.1	54.8	51.3	50.2	48.9	44.9	-18.1	-23.8
United Kingdom ..	384.6	337.3	92.3	92.0	72.2	80.9	82.5	82.3	67.0	-7.2	-9.6
France	285.5	293.3	77.6	77.6	59.2	79.0	83.3	83.0	68.0	+14.9	+9.3
Japan	424.5	433.2	104.8	110.9	110.3	107.2	95.9	102.1	102.1	-7.4	-7.9
Italy	236.7	204.9	54.1	58.1	48.0	44.8	44.4	44.8	41.3	-14.0	-18.5
West Germany ...	157.7	150.3	38.3	39.2	34.6	38.3	43.1	41.2	38.6	+11.6	+9.6
Belgium	93.1	88.8	24.1	23.6	20.1	19.7	22.0	18.7	13.2	-34.3	-20.5
Australia	76.5	80.9	17.4	20.9	22.0	20.5	17.9	19.6	19.8	-10.0	-5.0
Netherlands	19.3	17.8	4.5	4.6	3.8	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.4	+15.8	+7.8
Total	1,990.7	1,846.8	482.1	492.0	425.0	446.3	443.9	445.5	399.3	-6.1	-7.9

[1] Consumption on woolen and worsted system only.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Bureau of the Census.

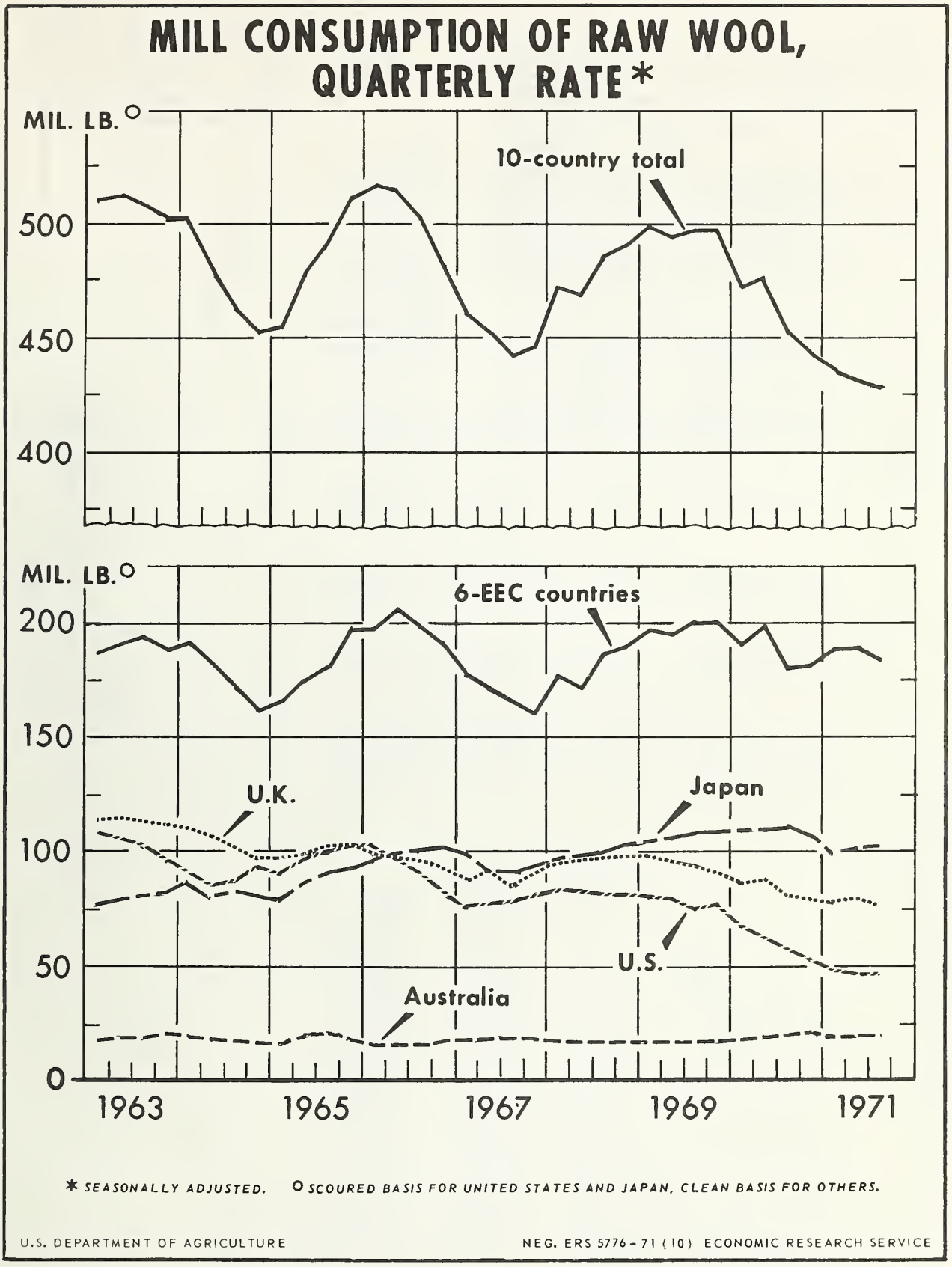
MILL CONSUMPTION OF RAW WOOL, QUARTERLY RATE*
MIL. LB.°
10-country total
500
450
400
MIL. LB.°
6-EEC countries
200
150
U.K.
Japan
100
50
U.S.
Australia
0
1963
1965
1967
1969
1971
* SEASONALLY ADJUSTED. ° SCOURED BASIS FOR UNITED STATES AND JAPAN, CLEAN BASIS FOR OTHERS.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5776-71 (10) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Figure 4

Southern Hemisphere Wool Exports Increasing

Exports of raw wool from the 5 major surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere picked up slightly in the early months of this season, after having contracted in 1970/71. This reflects to some extent a need to replenish supplies in consuming countries, as well as prospects for increased consumption. Production of wool this season likely will be smaller in principal Southern Hemisphere producing countries. For Argentina and Uruguay, this may limit exports, as their beginning stocks also were relatively small. But for Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand, where stocks are ample, the expected declines in production will have little bearing on this season's exports.

Australia's exports of wool last July-October were slightly ahead of a year earlier. July-October exports from New Zealand increased 13 percent, as its commission continued moving stock wool. Wool exports from South Africa and Argentina declined slightly. Uruguay's exports were the same as a year earlier. (See table 12.)

Table 12.—Exports of wool from major surplus-producing countries, actual weight[1]

Exporting country	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Australia:			
July-June	1,662	1,508	([2])
July-October	483	432	437
New Zealand:			
July-June	669	649	([2])
July-October	166	151	172
South Africa:			
July-June	247	169	([2])
July-November	86	55	53
Argentina:			
October-September	212	195	([2])
October-November	26	24	20
Uruguay:			
October-September	88	104	([2])
October-November	4	11	11

[1] Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Republic of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. [2] Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Part I - Domestic wool prices, Boston, clean basis

Item	1970		1971					1972	Latest data as percent of a year earlier
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
	Cents per pound								Percent
Graded territory shorn wool									
Fine good French combing and staple	92.5	85.0	82.5	82.5	61.0	60.5	61.5	62.5	76
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	90.5	82.9	82.5	82.5	56.2	55.4	54.5	54.5	66
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	88.0	83.1	81.5	77.5	61.8	59.3	52.5	52.5	64
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	86.8	83.0	81.5	77.5	61.8	59.3	52.5	52.5	64
Low 1/4 blood	78.5	77.0	76.5	76.5	63.5	60.3	52.5	52.5	69
Graded fleece shorn wool									
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	90.5	83.7	81.5	81.5	54.4	54.0	54.0	54.0	66
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	87.5	83.7	81.0	77.5	62.1	59.3	52.5	52.5	65
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	85.5	83.2	81.0	77.5	62.1	59.3	52.5	52.5	65
Low 1/4 blood	77.5	77.5	76.4	76.0	62.5	60.0	52.5	52.5	69
Original bag Texas shorn wool									
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	92.5	83.8	82.5	82.5	60.0	61.0	61.9	62.5	76
Fine 8 months (1 in. and over)	84.0	84.0	70.5	70.5	46.0	46.0	46.9	47.5	67
Fine fall (3/4 in. and over)	79.6	79.0	65.5	65.5	43.0	47.5	49.0	49.0	75
Scoured pulled wool									
64's, 70's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	108.8	107.5	107.5	107.5	92.5	90.0	72.5	72.5	67
60's, 64's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	96.5	96.5	91.6	90.0	76.5	73.6	65.0	65.0	71
60's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	91.5	91.5	87.8	85.5	74.0	71.2	63.0	63.0	72
58's, 60's, 2 in. and longer	90.5	90.5	83.0	79.8	71.5	68.9	61.9	62.5	75
56's, 58's, 2 in. and longer	85.5	85.5	79.5	76.2	62.1	59.6	59.9	60.5	76
56's, 2 in. and longer	79.2	80.5	80.5	78.5	60.2	59.0	59.9	60.5	75
50's, 56's, 2 in. and longer	77.2	78.5	76.3	74.8	64.0	61.8	61.0	61.0	80
44's, 50's, 4 in. and longer	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	67.5	65.6	62.6	61.0	86

Compiled from Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.

Part II - U.S. Mill Consumption and Imports

Item	Unit	1970 Sept.	1970 Oct.	1970 Nov.	1970 Dec.	1971 Sept.	1971 Oct.	1971 Nov.	1971 Dec.	Latest data as percent of a year earlier
Mill consumption, scoured basis 1/										
Average weekly rate during month 2/										
Apparel wool 3/	1,000									
60's and finer	pounds	1,027	939	1,076	923	1,048	1,059	936	996	108
Coarser than 60's	do.	1,631	1,732	1,623	1,469	1,097	1,147	989	967	66
Total apparel wool	do.	2,658	2,671	2,699	2,392	2,145	2,206	1,925	1,963	82
Carpet wool 4/	do.	1,672	1,529	1,350	1,270	1,499	1,740	1,603	1,446	114
Total apparel and carpet	do.	4,330	4,200	4,049	3,662	3,644	3,946	3,528	3,409	93
Monthly aggregates 2/										
Apparel wool 3/	Million									
60's and finer	pounds	5.1	3.8	4.3	4.6	5.2	4.2	3.7	5.0	109
Coarser than 60's	do.	8.2	6.9	6.5	7.3	5.5	4.6	4.0	4.8	66
Total apparel wool	do.	13.3	10.7	10.8	12.0	10.7	8.8	7.7	9.8	82
Carpet wool 4/	do.	8.4	6.1	5.4	6.3	7.5	7.0	6.4	7.2	114
Total apparel and carpet	do.	21.7	16.8	16.2	18.3	18.2	15.8	14.1	17.0	93
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel wool 3/	Million									
By grade	pounds									
60's and finer	do.	57.9	61.6	65.9	70.6	39.5	43.7	47.5	52.5	74
Coarser than 60's	do.	72.3	79.3	85.7	93.1	50.4	54.9	58.9	63.7	68
By system										
Woolen	do.	43.4	46.3	49.5	53.0	31.0	33.9	36.8	40.4	76
Worsted	do.	86.8	94.6	102.2	110.7	58.9	64.8	69.6	75.8	68
Total apparel wool	do.	130.2	140.9	151.7	163.7	89.9	98.7	106.4	116.2	71
Carpet wool 4/	do.	58.7	64.9	70.3	76.6	54.2	61.1	675	74.8	68
Total apparel and carpet	do.	188.9	205.8	222.0	240.3	144.1	159.8	173.9	191.0	79
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Monthly aggregates										
Dutiable wool	1,000									
Finer than 56's	pounds	1,218	1,627	1,430	2,922	3,699	2,184	51	563	19
46's to 56's	do.	1,129	852	870	1,092	691	203	31	119	11
44's to 46's	do.	56	---	57	11	53	---	---	---	---
40's to 44's	do.	469	158	92	109	89	43	61	---	---
Not finer than 40's	do.	715	270	500	306	299	18	37	152	50
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	48	26	3	99	42	4	10	---	---
Total dutiable wool	do.	3,635	2,934	2,952	4,540	4,874	2,452	190	835	18
Duty-free wool										
44's to 46's	do.	176	38	142	403	38	33	24	167	41
40's to 44's	do.	1,888	1,034	836	2,324	2,025	411	145	2,709	117
Not finer than 40's	do.	4,747	3,646	2,577	2,799	5,485	2,210	451	6,775	242
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	740	714	414	855	855	214	142	215	25
Total duty-free	do.	7,552	5,432	3,969	6,382	8,403	2,868	762	9,865	155
Total free and dutiable	do.	11,187	8,366	6,921	10,922	13,277	5,320	952	10,700	98
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable wool	Million									
Finer than 56's	pounds	43.5	45.1	46.5	49.4	27.9	30.1	30.1	30.7	62
46's to 56's	do.	15.4	16.3	17.1	18.2	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.1	39
44's to 46's	do.	.4	.4	.5	.5	.2	.2	.2	.2	40
40's to 44's	do.	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.7	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	35
Not finer than 40's	do.	6.3	6.6	7.1	7.4	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	43
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.4	.5	.5	.6	.2	.2	.2	.2	33
Total dutiable wool	do.	69.4	72.3	75.3	79.8	39.2	41.7	41.8	42.7	54
Duty-free wool										
44's to 46's	do.	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.2	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	77
40's to 44's	do.	13.9	14.9	15.7	18.1	19.4	19.8	20.0	22.7	125
Not finer than 40's	do.	35.1	38.8	41.3	44.1	43.9	46.1	46.6	53.3	121
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	6.9	7.6	8.0	8.9	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.2	70
Total duty-free wool	do.	57.5	63.0	66.9	73.3	70.4	73.3	74.0	83.9	114
Total free and dutiable	do.	126.9	135.3	142.2	153.1	109.6	114.9	115.9	126.6	83

1/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of processed felt, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products. 2/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks per quarter. 3/ Domestic and duty-paid foreign wool. 4/ Duty-free foreign wool. Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 13.--Fibers consumed and percentage distribution of wool and other fibers in woolen and worsted mills, United States

Fiber and year	Worsted system		Woolen system				Total fibers consumed	
			For yarns, except carpet and rug		For carpet and rug yarns			
	1,000 lb.	Pct.	1,000 lb.	Pct.	1,000 lb.	Pct.	1,000 lb.	Pct.
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep								
1967	141,366	56.3	87,293	30.1	83,851	36.8	312,510	40.6
1968	154,715	54.2	83,575	28.9	91,407	33.9	329,697	39.1
1969	139,216	50.9	79,819	28.1	93,758	34.0	312,793	37.5
1970	110,650	53.0	53,002	22.0	76,609	31.8	240,261	34.8
1971 2/	75,776	54.9	40,429	19.5	74,779	29.4	190,984	31.9
Man-made fibers								
1967	98,002	39.0	95,755	33.1	136,200	59.7	329,957	42.9
1968	118,685	41.6	104,779	36.3	171,522	63.6	394,986	46.8
1969	125,749	46.0	109,186	38.4	175,922	63.8	410,857	49.3
1970	92,793	44.4	110,891	46.0	160,400	66.5	364,084	52.7
1971 2/	59,049	42.8	103,478	50.0	176,229	69.4	338,756	56.5
Other fibers 1/								
1967	11,953	4.7	106,534	36.8	7,943	3.5	126,430	16.5
1968	11,931	4.2	100,436	34.8	6,700	2.5	119,067	14.1
1969	8,453	3.1	95,097	33.5	6,138	2.2	109,688	13.2
1970	5,433	2.6	77,078	32.0	4,135	1.7	86,646	12.5
1971 2/	3,219	2.3	63,239	30.5	3,049	1.2	69,507	11.6
Total fibers consumed								
1967	251,321	100.0	289,582	100.0	227,994	100.0	768,897	100.0
1968	285,331	100.0	288,790	100.0	269,629	100.0	843,750	100.0
1969	273,418	100.0	284,102	100.0	275,818	100.0	833,338	100.0
1970	208,876	100.0	240,971	100.0	241,144	100.0	690,991	100.0
1971 2/	138,044	100.0	207,146	100.0	254,057	100.0	599,247	100.0

1/ Includes noils, reprocessed and reused wool, mohair, alpaca, vicuna, and other specialty hair fibers as well as cotton, jute, and other vegetable fibers.

2/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census

Table 14.--Average weekly rate of consumption on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis for raw wool, United States, unadjusted and adjusted for seasonal variation

Month	1970		1971		1970		1971		1970		1971	
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted
	1,000 pounds											
	Raw wool				Apparel wool				Carpet wool			
January	5,455	5,296	3,850	3,726	3,999	3,925	2,543	2,495	1,456	1,371	1,307	1,231
February	5,309	5,123	3,779	3,641	3,892	3,746	2,385	2,286	1,417	1,377	1,394	1,355
March	5,188	5,024	3,943	3,833	3,752	3,579	2,602	2,484	1,436	1,445	1,341	1,349
April	5,337	5,131	3,670	3,553	3,893	3,664	2,337	2,198	1,444	1,467	1,333	1,355
May	5,174	4,902	3,748	3,564	3,535	3,260	2,418	2,230	1,639	1,642	1,330	1,334
June	4,618	4,387	3,847	3,679	3,253	3,008	2,411	2,228	1,365	1,379	1,436	1,451
July	3,711	4,362	3,020	3,575	2,454	2,757	1,824	2,048	1,257	1,605	1,196	1,527
August	4,584	4,379	3,650	3,495	2,702	2,576	2,012	1,926	1,882	1,803	1,638	1,569
September	4,330	4,395	3,644	3,705	2,658	2,790	2,145	2,266	1,672	1,605	1,499	1,439
October	4,200	4,133	3,946	3,855	2,671	2,765	2,206	2,299	1,529	1,368	1,740	1,556
November	4,049	4,205	3,528	3,632	2,699	2,879	1,925	2,057	1,350	1,326	1,603	1,575
December	3,662	4,083	3,409	3,787	2,392	2,725	1,963	2,240	1,270	1,358	1,446	1,547
	Man-made fibers				Other fibers				Total fibers			
January	7,213	7,184	7,136	7,108	2,000	1,978	1,469	1,453	14,668	14,458	12,455	12,287
February	7,464	7,449	6,199	6,187	2,056	1,900	1,503	1,389	14,829	14,472	11,481	11,217
March	6,998	6,652	6,566	6,241	1,990	1,827	1,473	1,362	14,176	13,503	11,982	11,426
April	7,325	7,289	6,580	6,547	1,914	1,707	1,388	1,314	14,575	14,127	11,638	11,414
May	7,560	7,419	7,002	6,871	1,841	1,692	1,450	1,332	14,574	14,013	12,200	11,767
June	7,160	6,871	6,725	6,454	1,672	1,615	1,449	1,400	13,450	12,873	12,021	11,533
July	5,932	7,148	5,319	6,408	1,379	1,651	976	1,169	11,022	13,161	9,315	11,152
August	7,672	7,238	6,838	6,451	1,549	1,528	1,314	1,296	13,805	13,145	11,802	11,242
September	7,209	6,999	6,513	6,323	1,304	1,401	1,325	1,423	12,843	12,795	11,482	11,451
October	6,853	6,369	7,259	6,746	1,480	1,540	1,305	1,358	12,533	12,042	12,510	11,959
November	6,656	6,663	6,295	6,301	1,479	1,602	1,200	1,300	12,184	12,470	11,023	11,233
December	6,111	6,960	5,845	6,657	1,406	1,548	1,171	1,290	11,179	12,591	10,425	11,734

Table 15.--U.S. production of woolen and worsted woven goods 1/

Fabric	1970	1970			1971			Change
		Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Jan.-Sept. 1971 to Jan.-Sept. 1970
	1,000 linear yards							Percent
Woolen and worsted woven fabrics (except felt)	178,590	54,216	35,386	30,890	37,006	32,577	22,116	-37.9
Apparel fabrics	171,975	52,606	34,156	29,332	35,865	31,132	21,197	-38.2
Government orders	5,996	2,257	751	357	66	29	83	-96.8
Other than Gov't. orders	165,979	50,349	33,405	28,975	35,799	31,103	21,114	-35.8
Men's and boys' clothing	73,930	22,005	13,794	13,023	18,210	14,211	7,539	-34.4
Less than 9 oz.	8,561	1,591	3,250	2,164	1,122	1,619	1,028	-41.1
Worsted	8,190	1,498	3,167	2,061	1,042	1,559	998	-41.3
Woolen	371	93	83	103	80	60	30	-36.6
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	49,300	15,903	6,980	7,429	13,042	9,474	4,791	-34.8
Worsted	34,781	11,159	4,649	5,179	9,301	6,767	3,042	-35.4
Woolen	14,519	4,744	2,331	2,250	3,741	2,707	1,749	-33.2
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	5,275	1,376	1,225	1,206	1,573	1,327	775	-9.7
Worsted	3,314	858	978	752	894	920	387	-14.1
Woolen	1,961	518	247	454	679	407	388	-2.2
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	8,570	2,528	1,820	1,787	2,002	1,468	705	-38.5
Worsted	712	233	169	137	96	106	95	-48.4
Woolen	7,858	2,295	1,651	1,650	1,906	1,362	610	-37.5
20 oz. up to 26 oz.	1,998	567	443	381	438	302	216	-40.9
26 oz. and over	226	40	76	56	33	21	24	-54.1
Women's and children's clothing	92,049	28,344	19,611	15,952	17,589	16,892	13,575	-36.9
Less than 9 oz.	9,062	3,182	1,896	1,043	841	685	775	-71.3
Worsted	775	254	222	144	278	212	221	+12.7
Woolen	8,287	2,928	1,674	899	563	473	554	-78.5
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	36,538	11,928	7,259	5,363	6,650	6,339	3,826	-46.1
Worsted	729	256	214	82	42	102	118	-59.5
Woolen	35,809	11,672	7,045	5,281	6,608	6,237	3,708	-45.8
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	3,904	1,269	689	642	393	610	277	-60.8
Worsted	305	86	41	68	42	36	67	-38.8
Woolen	3,599	1,183	648	574	351	574	210	-62.5
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	15,202	4,365	3,581	2,973	3,175	3,614	3,134	-18.9
Worsted	1,976	479	627	478	401	419	408	-18.0
Woolen	13,226	3,886	2,954	2,495	2,774	3,195	2,726	-19.0
20 oz. and over	27,343	7,600	6,186	5,931	6,530	5,644	5,563	-17.2
Nonapparel fabrics	6,615	1,610	1,230	1,558	1,141	1,445	919	-30.7
Blanketing	4,895	1,143	860	1,183	872	1,170	608	-28.6
Other	1,720	467	370	375	269	275	311	-36.4
	1,000 pounds							
Woven felts	7,792	2,107	1,761	1,728	1,880	1,959	1,761	-7.7
Papermakers	6,350	1,681	1,413	1,339	1,453	1,509	1,353	-13.9
All others	1,442	426	348	389	427	450	408	+22.0

1/ Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool or other animal fibers. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent, other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch width or equivalent 54 inch width.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.--Raw wool content of United States imports for consumption of wool manufactures 1/

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Woven fabrics 2/	Wool blankets 3/	Wearing apparel		Other manufactures 5/	Sub-total	Noils	Wastes 6/	Carpets and rugs	Total
					Knit	Other than knit 4/						
	1,000 pounds											
1962	5,717	9,162	22,108	337	12,629	10,161	5,297	65,411	36,569	14,111	29,546	145,637
1963	6,457	9,992	22,266	420	17,966	10,073	5,364	72,538	41,729	16,263	22,019	152,549
1964	3,079	8,217	19,804	535	20,282	8,139	1,201	61,257	38,075	14,420	27,395	141,147
1965	8,088	11,257	25,702	744	27,617	7,826	1,752	82,986	24,291	17,402	22,010	156,689
1966	10,362	12,969	24,836	746	25,789	7,232	1,669	83,603	27,647	16,229	16,793	144,272
1967	5,795	9,684	24,319	755	24,371	6,400	2,438	73,762	28,912	10,895	9,865	123,434
1968	6,622	10,850	32,696	874	32,845	8,513	2,549	94,949	27,011	14,669	9,338	145,967
1969	4,496	8,602	29,197	1,012	30,601	10,872	2,235	87,015	22,881	10,633	9,141	129,670
1970	4,406	8,092	23,943	1,004	25,207	12,917	2,563	78,132	20,026	10,619	7,783	116,560
1971 8/	2,753	7,665	11,720	679	21,322	9,895	3,038	57,072	15,491	7,987	9,155	89,705
1971 8/												
Jan.	245	533	1,282	31	871	615	79	3,656	1,608	920	703	6,887
Feb.	381	523	1,176	18	670	540	96	3,404	1,435	778	655	6,272
Mar.	221	904	1,854	48	773	529	86	4,415	1,427	705	955	7,502
Apr.	412	790	1,174	18	698	462	147	3,701	1,045	1,062	961	6,769
May	471	683	890	58	1,057	487	204	3,850	1,479	879	694	6,902
June	208	716	1,143	64	2,350	758	237	5,476	1,286	775	869	8,406
July	102	591	934	88	2,637	1,101	325	5,778	1,209	570	581	8,138
Aug.	130	614	925	120	3,031	1,163	206	6,189	1,051	466	1,020	8,726
Sept.	481	872	739	120	2,666	1,142	656	6,676	2,988	1,062	992	11,718
Oct.	50	551	613	42	2,843	1,256	127	5,482	624	279	603	6,988
Nov.	7	233	430	37	2,152	1,017	446	4,322	549	39	308	5,218
Dec.	45	655	560	35	1,574	825	429	4,123	790	452	814	6,179

See footnotes end of table 17.

Table 17.--Raw wool content of United States exports of domestic wool manufactures 1/

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Fabrics woven and knit	Wool blankets	Wearing apparel		Other manufactures 7/	Felts	Sub-total	Noils and wastes 6/	Carpets and rugs	Total
					Knit	Other than knit						
	1,000 pounds											
1962	291	221	654	173	126	273	442	170	2,350	1,444	575	4,369
1963	873	229	701	89	145	266	580	198	3,081	2,038	470	5,589
1964	370	228	748	239	201	390	893	276	3,345	3,281	372	6,998
1965	433	185	804	213	349	512	1,135	1,227	4,858	7,190	614	12,662
1966	458	273	586	183	348	600	876	1,023	4,347	5,184	588	10,119
1967	527	331	550	211	535	503	748	1,434	4,839	3,293	509	8,641
1968	461	367	496	207	472	573	961	1,349	4,886	3,635	818	9,339
1969	538	594	395	188	303	716	921	548	4,203	3,686	1,004	8,893
1970	804	297	403	164	305	688	769	650	4,080	2,484	860	7,424
1971 8/	5,108	307	468	157	304	650	798	431	8,223	2,615	1,205	12,043
1971 8/												
Jan.	30	36	10	11	16	31	74	20	228	415	80	723
Feb.	38	12	7	3	9	33	88	61	251	116	52	419
Mar.	77	16	28	1	47	53	107	31	360	194	53	607
Apr.	48	16	50	11	24	44	50	98	341	188	69	598
May	16	51	36	7	21	70	74	27	302	178	99	579
June	117	17	37	7	35	64	42	16	335	438	206	979
July	258	15	53	14	16	66	65	37	524	161	334	1,019
Aug.	791	37	24	4	17	59	51	17	1,000	197	100	1,297
Sept.	1,005	36	62	13	50	61	51	36	1,314	241	70	1,625
Oct.	433	27	85	3	27	60	59	57	751	140	40	931
Nov.	761	2	27	70	20	61	38	15	994	106	34	1,134
Dec.	1,534	42	49	13	22	48	99	16	1,823	241	68	2,132

1/ Includes manufactures of mohair, alpaca, and other wool-like specialty hair.
2/ Includes pile fabric and manufactures, tapestry and upholstery goods, press and billiard cloths.
3/ Includes carriage and automobile robes, steamer rugs, etc.
4/ Includes laces, lace articles, veils and veilings, nets and nettings, when reported in pounds.
5/ Includes knit fabrics in the piece and miscellaneous manufactures not elsewhere specified.
6/ Not including rags.
7/ Census Bureau's Schedule B classification designated manufactures, n.e.c.
8/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.--Textile fabrics: Deliveries to U.S. military forces, raw fiber content

Fabric and mixture	1970	1971	1971											1972							
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	1,000 pounds																				
Wool																					
100 percent wool fabric	7,484	1,691	-4	6	0	0	92	138	190	161	99	272	315	422							
Wool and man-made fiber mixtures																					
50 percent or more wool	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Less than 50 percent wool	1,444	320	13	14	0	0	0	0	17	37	56	34	66	83							
Wool and other fiber mixtures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Total	8,933	2,011	9	20	0	0	92	138	207	198	155	306	381	505							
Cotton																					
100 percent cotton fabric	24,678	5,909	117	52	35	4	50	228	405	1,009	914	1,172	989	934							
Cotton and man-made fiber mixtures																					
50 percent or more cotton	3,476	985	349	258	162	41	53	53	0	28	39	0	2	0							
Less than 50 percent cotton	465	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	0	11	99	27							
Cotton and other fiber mixtures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Total	28,619	7,045	466	310	197	46	103	281	411	1,044	953	1,183	1,090	961							
Man-made																					
Cellulosic																					
Filament yarn	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Staple fiber	5	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0							
Total	55	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0							
Non-cellulosic																					
Filament yarn	3,483	398	11	1	4	2	40	17	27	16	28	73	102	77							
Staple fiber	5,890	2,114	338	259	158	38	50	123	58	276	196	174	239	205							
Total	9,373	2,512	349	260	162	40	90	140	85	292	224	247	341	282							
Total man-made																					
Filament yarn	3,533	398	11	1	4	2	40	17	26	16	28	73	102	77							
Staple fiber	5,895	2,115	338	258	158	38	50	123	58	278	196	174	239	205							
Total	9,428	2,513	349	259	162	40	90	140	85	294	224	247	341	282							
Glass	23	43	0	0	3	0	0	7	11	11	0	1	10	0							
Total all fibers	47,003	11,612	824	589	362	86	285	566	714	1,547	1,332	1,737	1,822	1,748							

Based on data from the Department of Defense.

Table 19.--Fabric deliveries to U.S. military forces, in equivalent square yards of fabric

Fiber and fabric	1970	1971													1972								
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
	1,000 square yards																						
Wool																							
Blanketing	2,336	0	0	0	0	100	164	215	144	90	183	165	164	1,225									
Flannel	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	32	110	143	186	526									
Frieze	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Gabardine	2,158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	115	184	338									
Kersey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Melton	1,379	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	140	217									
Pile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Serge	4,864	-6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0									
Tropical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Other	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Total	10,755	-6	1	0	0	100	164	215	199	122	398	500	674	2,367									
Mixed fiber																							
Cotton and wool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Cotton and cellulosic	45	0	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-7									
Cotton and non-cellulosic	16,825	1,463	1,028	647	202	169	265	69	174	125	123	564	313	5,142									
Cotton and glass	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Cotton and other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Wool and cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Wool and non-cellulosic	8,555	57	66	0	0	0	0	96	204	312	191	367	472	1,765									
Wool and other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Cotton, wool and cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Cotton, wool and non-cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Cellulosic and non-cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	18									
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Total	25,425	1,520	1,087	647	202	169	265	165	396	437	314	931	785	6,918									
Cotton																							
Total	45,671	337	173	74	-11	85	477	893	1,446	1,263	1,739	1,703	2,015	10,194									
Man-made																							
Cellulosic																							
Total	179	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2									
Non-cellulosic																							
Total	5,419	31	6	45	13	94	292	141	658	321	552	346	402	2,901									
Glass	51	0	0	6	-1	0	11	29	31	0	5	15	0	96									
Total man-made	5,649	31	6	51	12	94	304	170	689	321	557	362	402	2,999									
Total all fibers	87,500	1,882	1,267	772	203	448	1,210	1,443	2,730	2,143	3,008	3,496	3,876	22,478									

Based on data from the Department of Defense.

Table 20.--Production of wool and hair tops, worsted and woolen yarn, and wool woven fabrics, selected countries

Country	Year		1970				1971			Change	
	1969	1970	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	July-Sept. 1971 to July-Sept. 1970	Jan.-Sept. 1971 to Jan.-Sept. 1970
	Million pounds									Percent	
Tops											
United Kingdom	202.9	175.7	49.6	48.9	38.5	38.8	39.0	37.6	33.0	-14.3	-20.0
France	216.9	224.6	59.7	59.4	45.0	60.5	63.8	63.0	50.9	+13.1	+8.3
Japan	324.4	329.4	79.9	83.8	83.4	82.3	73.1	76.8	77.3	-7.3	-8.1
Italy	170.5	145.4	39.1	40.5	34.4	31.4	31.0	30.9	24.3	-29.4	-24.4
United States	133.7	106.5	31.1	29.2	23.1	23.1	20.0	19.9	15.3	-33.8	-33.8
West Germany	96.0	94.4	24.1	24.6	22.9	22.7	25.6	25.9	24.3	+6.1	+5.9
Belgium	63.0	54.7	16.0	15.8	11.2	11.8	10.3	10.6	7.5	-33.0	-34.0
Australia	42.1	40.9	10.4	11.3	11.5	10.8	7.6	8.9	8.6	-25.2	-24.4
Uruguay	30.7	32.9	6.2	10.7	6.7	9.1	10.7	8.9	3.5	-47.8	-2.1
Netherlands	.6	.5	.1	.1	.1	.1	---	---	---	---	---
Total	1,280.8	1,204.9	316.2	324.2	276.7	290.5	1/281.0	1/282.5	1/244.7	1/-11.5	1/-11.9
Worsted yarn											
United Kingdom	212.4	202.5	53.1	53.8	44.6	51.1	49.9	49.1	44.0	-1.4	-5.6
Italy	245.2	236.2	58.8	62.1	55.5	59.9	56.8	62.4	55.1	-.7	-1.2
France	223.1	224.7	60.2	58.7	42.4	63.4	63.6	63.9	45.6	+7.6	+7.3
West Germany	184.2	187.0	47.0	47.8	41.6	50.6	50.4	50.3	49.6	+19.2	+10.2
Japan	279.4	291.3	68.8	74.3	73.7	74.4	67.2	73.0	74.0	+.4	-1.2
Belgium	126.7	125.8	33.1	32.2	26.4	34.1	35.3	36.0	29.1	+10.2	+9.5
Netherlands	17.2	18.9	4.4	4.5	4.2	5.8	5.4	5.2	4.9	+16.7	+18.3
Australia	18.1	19.8	4.6	4.8	5.1	5.3	4.5	4.7	4.8	-5.9	-3.5
Total	1,306.3	1,306.2	330.0	338.2	293.5	344.6	333.1	344.6	307.1	+4.6	+2.4
Woolen yarn											
United Kingdom	322.0	297.3	76.7	77.1	64.3	79.3	81.5	79.9	62.7	-2.5	+2.8
Italy	317.5	305.5	73.6	82.6	68.9	80.3	75.4	79.8	68.3	-.9	-.7
France	96.1	90.6	24.4	24.5	16.9	24.7	25.0	26.6	18.0	+6.5	+5.8
West Germany	114.1	107.1	27.7	27.6	22.5	29.3	26.9	27.8	27.6	+22.7	+5.8
Japan	105.3	109.2	25.7	28.9	27.8	26.8	25.4	27.1	25.5	-8.3	-5.3
Belgium	52.6	53.1	14.7	15.1	10.2	13.3	14.2	15.2	9.9	-2.9	-1.8
Netherlands	31.6	27.9	7.3	7.6	6.1	6.6	6.8	7.2	6.2	+1.6	-3.8
Australia	37.7	41.2	8.6	10.5	11.2	10.7	9.4	10.8	10.5	-6.3	+1.3
Total	1,076.9	1,031.9	258.7	273.9	227.9	271.0	264.6	274.4	228.7	+.4	+1.0
Woven fabrics											
	Million square yards										
United States	360.2	291.9	94.8	87.8	59.1	50.6	60.4	53.7	44.3	-25.0	-34.5
United Kingdom	310.4	277.1	69.5	71.8	64.9	70.9	63.7	62.3	57.6	-11.3	-11.0
Japan	518.6	509.1	121.3	130.9	132.0	124.9	116.7	126.2	130.9	-.8	-2.7
France	209.7	180.0	47.7	47.5	34.2	50.6	50.2	54.7	46.7	+36.6	+17.2
West Germany	166.6	147.4	35.7	38.4	34.0	39.3	37.1	38.7	36.1	+6.2	+3.5
Netherlands	52.2	48.1	11.5	12.6	11.0	10.8	14.7	9.1	7.9	-28.2	-9.7
Australia	32.3	32.1	7.4	8.2	8.0	8.4	6.9	6.4	5.9	-26.3	-18.6
Total	1,650.0	1,485.7	388.0	397.1	343.2	355.6	349.7	351.0	329.4	-4.0	-8.7
Belgium	34.5	32.5	8.4	8.3	7.2	8.6	7.9	8.6	7.5	+4.2	+.4
Italy (Mil. lb.)	253.4	255.5	59.4	69.5	59.9	66.7	63.9	66.4	57.3	-4.3	-.6

1/ Total excludes Netherlands.

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